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Senate

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Infinite Spirit, draw near to us today. Forgive us if we have been blind to needs of our world. Take us down the road of humility so that we will be patient with those who don't agree with us.

Guide Your Senators with Your wisdom. Let Your purposes shape their minds and Your holiness direct their decisions. Remind them often that they serve You and that Your standard for success is faithfulness.

Help them pursue mercy as well as justice as You provide them with greater insight into Your will. Show them what is right and then give them the courage to do it.

We pray in Your powerful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning we will have 30 minutes of morning

business. Following that period, we will return to the Defense appropriations bill. We have three amendments pending on the bill at this time. We hope to lock in a vote in relation to the Feinstein amendment regarding cluster munitions. I understand that 12 noon is the best time for that vote. Therefore, Senators can expect a vote prior to the policy luncheons. We will recess for the policy meetings today from 12:30 to 2:15.

I remind everyone we will finish the bill this evening or Thursday, if necessary. If Senators have amendments, they should have already contacted the managers. In order to finish at the earliest time, we will be voting throughout the day and as late as necessary to ensure completion of that bill.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. While the distinguished majority leader is on the floor, I just finished our leadership meeting. As I indicated to the leader last night somewhat late, we will be in a position right after the caucus to indicate to floor staff what amendments will be offered on this bill so we can finish it tomorrow. I indicated to the majority leader what we intend to do after the caucus today is completed, and I have floor staff lining up how much time will be taken on that amendment so we can finish that this afternoon or this evening, certainly. We are going to finish this bill. We have had to eliminate a number of amendments. We have squeezed those so we have a reasonable number. They are not completely squeezed out yet. They will be.

As I told the distinguished Presiding Officer yesterday, and the majority leader, we will finish the bill tomorrow.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I very much appreciate the comments of the Democratic leader. This is a bill we started before our recess. We agreed we would finish today, although because of extenuating circumstances we will go to tomorrow. It is a very important bill. It is important in support of our troops, in support of our efforts on the war on terror. It is a bill we will finish tomorrow.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a vote in relation to the Feinstein amendment No. 4882 at 12 noon today with no second-degree amendments in order prior to the vote; further, that the time from 11:15 to noon be equally divided in the usual form.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. FRIST. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. VITTER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will be a period for the transaction of morning business for up to 30 minutes, with the first half under the time of the control of the majority leader or his designee and the second half under the control of the minority leader or his designee.

Mr. KYL. I ask unanimous consent to speak for 15 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT BUSH

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, the remarks President Bush delivered yesterday

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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